

IN THE
SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

No. 2003 -

DION JAMES, a/k/a Delvin Percy James,

PETITIONER,

v.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

RESPONDENT

ON PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI
TO THE UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE FOURTH CIRCUIT

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Attorney for Petitioner

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

1. Did the district court abuse its discretion in denying petitioner's motion for mistrial, after a government witness improperly referred to petitioner's probationary status, allowing the jury to infer guilt based on conviction of prior criminal activity?
2. Did the court of appeals improperly ignore the prejudicial reference to petitioner's probation, as well as significant deficiencies in the government's proof of any involvement by petitioner in the crime charged, thereby incorrectly determining that the evidence was sufficient to sustain his conviction?

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

- (A). WHETHER PETITIONER WAS DENIED DUE PROCESS AND EQUAL PROTECTION OF THE LAW BY WAY OF PETITIONER BEING FOUND GUILTY OF A CRIME OF WHICH HE DID NOT DO.

- (B). WHETHER PETITIONER WAS DENIED HIS SIXTH AMENDMENT RIGHT TO EFFECTIVE ASSISTANCE OF COUNSEL BY WAY OF COUNSEL FAILURE TO INVESTIGATE AND CALL POTENTIAL WITNESSES IN HIS BEHALF.

- (C). THAT IF THIS COURT FAIL TO CONSIDER THE CASE ON THE MERITS IT WOULD CAUSE A MISCARRIAGE OF JUSTICE.

JURISDICTION

The judgment and opinion of the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit was entered on July 10th, 2003. See appendix as exhibit "A" attached hereto. Because of the enactment of the "**Antiterrorism and Effective Death Penalty Act**" (AEDPA) Petitioner have no other avenue to petition this Court except by way of filing a petition under rule 20.2; 28 U.S.C. §1651(a); §§2241 and 2242. Jurisdiction is conferred by way of the above mentioned.

